

REMARKS

Claims 16-24 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wooters in view of Bruhn, Jr. Claims 3-5 and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wooters in view of Bruhn, Jr. and MacDuff. Claims 6 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wooters in view of Bruhn, Jr. and Taig. Claims 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wooters in view of Strait and MacDuff. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

At the outset, Applicants wish to note that by way of the present response, Claims 1-15 have been cancelled, thereby rendering these rejections moot. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants offer the following arguments in response to the prior art of record.

Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention. That is, Applicants submit that none of the cited prior art references teaches or suggests each and every claim limitation, either singly or in combination. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to teach "a brake pedal having an arm portion and a pedal portion, said pedal portion being disposed on a first end of said arm portion, said brake pedal being pivotally coupled to said bracket member [frame] at a second end of said arm portion for movement through an operating stroke, said


second end of said arm portion being elevated relative to said pedal portion; . . . a locking mechanism for providing a locked position for said brake pedal, said locking mechanism providing a single audible indication to an operator that said brake pedal had been depressed sufficiently to be latched in said locked position, said locking mechanism operable to unlatch upon advancement of said brake pedal beyond said locked position" as claimed in independent Claims 16 and 19. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejections.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 12, 2004

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